

November 2021

# Georgia Gems

*A Publication of the Georgia School Nutrition Association*

**T**ogether



*Happy Thanksgiving*



## It's Fall in School Nutrition!

You have all weathered the start of another year and made it to Fall!

Your mission of “**Building Healthy Children, Ready to Learn**” is just about done and you are almost through with the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year.



So, let's take some time “**Together**” to reflect and to look “**Towards**” 2022.

As we approach the holiday season, we can sure be *thankful* that we were able to gather “**Together**” again at the GSNA Industry Regional Expos and the 2021 Managers Retreat & Training. The chance to meet with our industry partners and see our friends in school nutrition again was great.

We are sure the small respite from dealing with the many challenges of staffing and supply lines, increasing food prices, and Covid was appreciated.

## So, what's happening in Georgia School Nutrition and what do you have to look forward to?

As mentioned GSNA has already completed our Industry Regional Expos and we held our annual Managers' Retreat at the FFA Camp in Covington.

**The Expos** were held in Macon, Tifton, and Gwinnett, with attendance over 250 GSNA members and 50 exhibitors. Members were eager to come out and network IN PERSON with other members and to visit with exhibitors and sample new products and new packaging.

Thank you to our Industry Advisory Board Chair Corey Ferger of CGA Reps and Joel Teachworth of Kelloggs for presenting the training sessions at our Regional Expos. Their presentations spoke to our current times. Corey's topic was “3 Degrees from Normal”, while Joel presented “Nourishing Our Well-being Through Mindfulness”.

The GSN Foundation resumed our annual Manager's Retreat & Training this year after a pause in 2020. The 2021 Manager's Retreat at the lovely and peaceful FFA Camp in Covington included inspiring speakers that covered topics such as self-care, employee relations and navigating kitchen dynamics. It was great to have Managers engaging and networking in-person again.

Thanks to our School Level Chair Adina Tyre and our presenters, GSNA Education Committee Chair Sheila Cooper, GSNA Conference Co-Chair Shelley Daniel, GSNA System Level Chair Cathy Johnson, and GSNA Chair of District Presidents Ervin Watson.

We hope that these meetings gave everyone a taste of what's to come for the 2022 Annual Conference in the spring.

## Tribute to Dr. Josephine Martin

Thanks to all those who joined GDOE School Nutrition and GSNA for the Virtual Memorial for Dr. Josephine Martin.

Dr. Martin's work in school nutrition inspired school nutrition professionals all over the nation. She was a school nutrition pioneer and we in Georgia were proud to call her our own!

If you missed the virtual tribute please view it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-mLaBn-Ts-A>



## We thank the following for their generous donations to Georgia School Nutrition Foundation in memory of Dr. Martin:

Emily Hanlin, 2021-2022 GSNA President – Executive Director Cobb School Nutrition

Nancy Miura - Hawaii SFSA Past President

Mary Nix, GSNA Past President (1977-78) & SNA Past President (1980-81)

Butts County SNA

Cherokee County Chapter, GSNA

Fulton County SNA

## 2021 - 2022 Calendar & Events

### January 2022

**12-14** GSNA Equipment Academy (Perry, GA)

**16-18** SNA School Nutrition Industry Conference (San Antonio, TX)

**20-21** GSNA Executive Committee & Executive Board Meetings (Macon Marriott Courtyard)

### February 2022

**1-2** GSNA Legislative Advocacy Conference (Decatur Marriott Courtyard)

**18** SNAP Training: Macon (More information to come)

### March 2022

**6-8** SNA Legislative Action Conference (Washington, DC)

**7-11** NSBW 2022: Take Off with School Breakfast

**14** GSNA State Culinary Competition – Jackson High School (Butts County)

### April 2022

**20-23** GSNA Annual Conference (Savannah)

**28-30** SNA National Leadership Conference (West Palm Beach, FL)

### May 2022

**6** School Lunch Hero Day

### June 2022

GSNA Leadership Training: TBD

### July 2022

**10-12** SNA Annual Conference (Orlando, FL)

## Winter/Spring Scholarship & Grant-in-Aid Deadlines



The GSN Foundation Winter scholarship and grant in aid deadline is December 15th. GSNA members can submit their scholarship forms for the Winter deadline.

The winter deadline date applies to Members ONLY.

### SPRING DEADLINES

The deadline for spring submissions for members and children of members is March 1, 2022.

### Applications and requirements are available here:

<https://www.georgiaschoolnutrition.com/GSN-Foundation/GSN-Foundation-Scholarships-Grant-in-Aid>

## GSNA 2022 Officer Elections



The GSNA 2021 Nominating Committee has completed the task of selecting the candidates for the 2022 GSNA Officers Election.

The following Candidates will appear on the ballot in the 2022 Election:

### President-elect candidate:

Cathy Johnson, Richmond County

### System Level Chair candidate:

April Cox, Hall County

### Treasurer candidates:

Sandra Thrift, Ware County

Ken Yant, Gwinnett County

Voting will take place between January 3, 2022 - February 3, 2022 and will be done ONLINE ONLY.

Eligible voting members will receive an email with the election link in late December.

To be eligible to vote, your GSNA membership must be valid and current as of November 1, 2021.

Candidate bios will be posted soon on the Election page of the GSNA website:

<https://www.georgiaschoolnutrition.com/Membership/GSNA-Elections>

GSNA Thanks Our 2021-2022 Platinum Sponsor

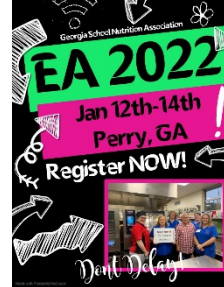
GSNA Headquarters 2021 Holiday Schedule



The GSNA headquarters will be closed for Thanksgiving November 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>. Our Christmas and Winter break schedule will be December 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The office will open for the New Year on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## We Still Have So Much More To Look "TOWARDS"!

2022 Equipment Academy - January 12,14, 2022 - Georgia National Fairground, Perry



Our bi-annual meeting, THE GSNA Equipment Academy is scheduled for January 12-14 at the Georgia National Fairgrounds in Perry.

You do not want to miss this opportunity to meet live and in person with manufacturer and factory reps as well as GA dealers!

This event promises to be full of information from experts in the field on combi ovens, walk-ins, and other kitchen equipment, latest small wares on display, learning sessions and many networking opportunities.

### **NEW! Maintenance Track for Maintenance Directors & Team Members**

Bring your Maintenance Director and/or Staff to EA!

Visit <https://www.georgiaschoolnutrition.com/News-and-Events/Meetings/Equipment-Academy> for more information on how to register for this event.

## GA Advocacy Conference - February 1-2, 2022 - Decatur Marriott Courtyard, Decatur



The GSNA Legislative Advocacy Conference is a great way to advocate for meaningful change and policy efforts that affect your local school nutritional programs.

Plan to attend our 2022 Advocacy Conference. This will an opportunity to visit our state capital and network with your peers, meet with your representatives and be a part of the movement that fuels Georgia's children.

Don't miss this excellent training and the chance to share "Your School Nutrition Story" with Georgia Legislators.

Registration and the 2022 GSNA Legislative Position Paper will be available soon.

## 2022 Annual Conference - April 21-23 - Savannah, GA

*"Learn, Link & Lead"*



Don't be the "Missing Piece"! GSNA is happy to announce that we will hold our 2022 Annual Conference, April 21-23 in Savannah.

We hope that you are ready to *"Learn, Link & Lead"* in Savannah!

Registration, hotel information and GSN Foundation Golf Tournament information will be available soon.



**School Nutrition Billboard Campaign: #LoveWhatYouDo**



This fall we have launched a new campaign, #LoveWhatYouDo with the message of what a GREAT career school nutrition is. School nutrition like all industries right now has staffing issues. GADOE and our industry partners want to help you secure the best staff possible and get the word out about the benefits of working for the Children of Georgia. Be on the lookout for the billboards in your area.

Take a pic and post it with the hashtags #FuelingGA #LoveWhatYouDo #KeepGALearning

**Map & Billboard Location Data**

<http://apps.lamar.com/SalesMarketing/webresources/content/proposals/allReports.html?pId=4862417&type=P2&sl=true>

**Please Thank Our Sponsors:**



[@RoyalFoodService](#) [@IdahoanFoods](#)



**January 20-21, 2022** - GSNA Executive Committee & Executive Board Meetings – Macon Marriott Courtyard – Macon, GA

**February 18, 2022** - SNAP Training (School Nutrition Assistant Training) – Macon, GA – Details to be announced soon

**March 14, 2022** - GSNA State Culinary Contest - Jackson High School (Butts County)

**GSNA AMAZON SMILE**



Support the Georgia School Nutrition Foundation this holiday season. Shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and donate to your FAVORITE school nutrition organization (GSNA!), at no cost to you. Visit: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/58-6066402>